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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2007

CONTROLS
CONFIDENTIAL ASUNCION 1174
EZ2:

TEXT
E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SHUM, PA
SUBJECT: (U) PARAGUAYAN INVESTIGATION INTO CASE OF JOSEF MENGELE
REF: (A) 84 ASUNCION 7526, (B) 84 ASUNCION 7658
1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT. -- THIS IS AN ACTION MESSAGE.)
2. INTERIOR MINISTER MONTANARO TOLD THE AMBASSADOR FEBUARY 22
THAT THE GOP HAS UNDERWAY WHAT HE CALLED AN INVESTIGATION INTO
THE JOSEP MENGELE CASE. MONTANARO SAID THIS EFFORT WAS LAUNCHED
ON THE BASIS OF THE REQUEST BY THE GROUP WHICH VISITED ASUNCION
LAST NOVEMBER LED BY BROOKLYN DISTRICT ATTORNEY ELIZABETH
HOLTZMAN. MONTANARO SAID HE HAS ASKED THE POLICE NATIONWIDE FOR ANY
INFORMATION THEY HAD ON MENGELE, BUT THAT THEY HAD TURNED UP
NOTHING ABOUT HIS WHEREABOUTS.
3. THE AMBASSADOR ASKED IF THE MINISTER HAD RECEIVED ANY
FURTHER COMMUNICATION FROM THE HOLTZMAN GROUP SINCE THEIR
VIST, NOTING THAT MONTANARO REPORTEDLY HAD AGREED TO ANSWER
ANY FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS AND PURSUE ANY LEADS WHICH THEY
MIGHT PROVIDE. MONTANARO SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD FURTHER
FROM THE GROUP. HE DID SAY THAT AT THE TIME OF ITS VISIT
THE GROUP HAD PROVIDED HIM WITH NAMES OF ALLEGED ASSOCIATES
OF MENGELE TAKEN FROM THE 1978 BRITISH TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY
ON HIM BY GRANADA TV PRODUCTIONS. THESE, HE SAID, WERE
ALREADY KNOWN TO THE GOP.
4. IF THE HOLTZMAN GROUP SUBMITS QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTS OTHER
LEADS TO THE PARAGUAYANS, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO THE
EMBASSY TO HAVE A COPY OF SUCH INFORMATION.

FOR COORDINATION WITH ^{ed} STATE

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5. ACTION REQUESTED: WE SUGGEST THE DEPARTMENT CONTACT MS. HOLTZMAN TO ASK IF SHE WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE US WITH SUCH MATERIAL.

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